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June 1953

CARIBBEAN NEWS 6d.

VICTORY FOR P.P.P. IN BRITISH GUIANA ELECTION

"We Stand Firm"

From Janet Jagan

WE in this Party have just displayed to the world that the People of British Guiana were willing to be lead by the most militant and well organised body in the West Indies to-day. All efforts to lead the people away from our distinctly left movement were in vain. The people of British Guiana have spoken in decisive terms and we promise you that we shall not take the opportunist path taken by those betrayers of Barbados and Jamaica who have allowed opportunism to sway them from their correct role.

Sweeping to victory in 18 out of the 23 constituencies contested (24 in all) the Peoples Progressive Party has won the right to choose the six elected Ministers to the Court of Policy, and to nominate two members to sit on the revisionary State Council.

Successfully carrying the flag for the P.P.P., were Ministers, Cheddi Jagan, leader of the arty who polled 82 per cent. of the votes cast in his constituency.
L. Burnham, Chairman of the P.P.P., President, B.G.L.U.
Sydney King, Assistant Secretary, P.P.P.; Deputy Chairman, Buxton Village Council; member B.G. Peace Committee, delegate to the World Congress for Peace, polled 71 per cent.
Jai Narine Singh, Barrister; graduate, College Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad, polled 86 per cent.
Dr. J. P. Lachmansingh, President, Guiana Industrial Workers' Union, polled 72 per cent.
Ashton Chase, Secretary, B.G. Labour Union, polled 60.5 per cent.

"His name has become a symbol of salvation to the people." Cheddi Jagan, leader of the P.P.P. of British Guiana seen at the W.F.T.U. Council in Berlin with V.V.Kuznetsov, now Soviet Ambassador to China.

Deputy Speaker,

Janet Jagan—General Secretary P.P.P. and delegate to the Internation Congress of Women.
(Editors note—Also edits "Thunder", organ of the P.P.P., and a graduate of University of Detroit.)

Appointed to State Council :

Ulric Fingal and George Robertson, faithful Party members for many years.

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Land Tenants Fight Rent Jumps in South Trinidad

TENANTS associations are being formed in South Trinidad in order to fight the landlords who are imposing heavily increased rents on the tenants. These tenants are in the main small peasants and agricultural labourers. George Bowrin, Chairman, and James Cummings, Secretary of the Southern Working Committee of the W.I.I.P., have actually organised the tenants all over the South for the struggle against the landlords.

During the last two weeks, meetings have been held in the villages of Rambert, Bamboo, Esperance and La Romain. The tenants are preparing for their own demonstrations in the South and for the first time will take part in the May Day demonstration in Port of Spain.

Free Hand

Under the present Rent Restriction Ordinance the landlords have a free hand to increase rents. In Esperance village the landlord Seenath is demanding an increase from 5.00 per lot per year to $30.00 per year, while at Rambert Village the landlord Augustus is demanding an increase from $6.00 to $12.00 per year and from $12.00 to $24.00 per year.

STALLING JAMAICA?

THE recent constitutional changes agreed on for Jamaica by the Tory Colonial Secretary, Oliver Lyttleton, and the Governor of Jamaica, Sir Hugh Foot, are one more manoeuvre on the part of those who exploit the West Indies to fool the people into believing they are free.

The proposed changes are: (1) Increasing the elected members on the Executive Council by three making a total of 8. (2) Establishment of separate ministries with an elected Minister in control. (3) Power to the Majority Party Leader to hire and fire ministers, and (4) Clipping of the Governor's reserve powers.

On Paper

These changes appear to be quite progressive on paper. When one notes that the Governor still has the power of veto, still has power to declare a state of emergency without referring to the House of Representatives and that foreign troops are still in our country these changes appear as the shameful fraud they really are.

WORKERS DEMONSTRATED FOR FREEDOM ON MAY-DAY

THE biggest ever May Day demonstration in the history of Trinidad and Tobago took place on Friday, May 1st, 1953.

Over 6,000 workers demonstrated for two hours through the main streets of Port of Spain, under the banner of the Trinidad and Tobago Trades Union Council and the West Indian Independence Party of Trinidad and Tobago.

For probably the first time the peasants and the land tenants marched in a single detachment led by Comrade George Bowrin and James Cunnings of the Southern Working Committee of the W.I.I.P. The inter-racial composition of the demonstration struck a resounding blow against the racialists. The women, over 2,000 in number, were well represented in the demonstration mainly through the Women's Auxiliary Group of the Oilfield Workers' Trade Union.

Militant Slogans

Greetings from the Caribbean Labour Congress (L.B.), People's Progressive Party (B.G.), People's Political Party (St. Vincent) and the World Federation of Trade Unions were read to the May Day meeting.

At the head of the demonstration were the leading members of the T.U.C. and the W.I.I.P. Main slogans and resolutions dealt with the bans on literature and travel, the demand for a new Constitution, for Federation with Independence and against a Crown Colony Federation, Social Security, Unemployment Relief and Peace. Two of the slogans read "We Want More Pay—Not More Bans", "British Guiana To-day—Trinidad and Tobago To-morrow".

The main addresses were delivered by John Rojas, President of the T.U.C., and Lennox Pierre, Chairman of the W.I.I.P.

Closing the celebrations, Comrade John La Rose, General Secretary of the West Indian Independence Party, called upon the people to resolve "to expel the British Imperialists from our country".

In Tobago, special May Day celebrations were held. There the main address was delivered by Comrade Simeon Alexander, first Vice-President of the Federated Workers Trade Union. *(C.P.N.S.)*

B.G. Also

In Georgetown, British Guiana, over 20,000 people took part in May Day celebrations. The mammoth crowd expressed joy over the election victory of the P.P.P.

Dedicated to P.P.P.

BRAVE leaders of the peoples
Do not retreat nor fear
But cast each obstacle aside
And make the pathway clear.

The voices of the peoples
Speak with thee one and all,
Surely this a poor man's party
And hears the poor man's call.

Our freedom and independence
Worth all our diamond and gold,
And we shall fight for this
With our very life and soul.

The enemy of the peoples
Will not reign for long,
We'll crush them all.
They are few, we are many,
Our mighty arm is strong.

by Carlton Bailey

CONSPIRACY AGAINST ST. VINCENT LEADER

REPEATED attacks have been made on the Hon. E. T. Joshua, because of his militant stand for the working people of St. Vincent. Below is a copy of a signed and sworn statement, bringing to light the latest move against him.

I Vincent Albert Sardine of Kingstown St. Vincent do hereby make the following statement voluntary and of my own free will. I arrived at St. Vincent on the S.S. Nina about six weeks ago and happened to have met Lt.-Col Jinkins, Superintendent of the Police Force who had a chat with me concerning Hon. E. T. Joshua stating that the said Mr. Joshua is definitely a Communist. He told me that I must remember that I am a white man and that he needed my help. He said, I will pay the charge to join his Union. The set up is that we want Joshua either shot or to get him on a good charge say Arson. You could try to influence him, by getting chummy with him and I will pay you a reward, if you could get him to burn say the Barracks or the Treasury; and inform me of the time when the offence will be committed I will be present to protect you, and you will become Queen's witness. I told him O.K.

When I was about to leave, he gave me a dollar and made me sign a receipt which he placed in the safe at his office. I then left and went away. After a week he sent and called me and told me to meet him at his home at lunch time. I did so. He gave me two white shirts and a short pants. He told me "Now Sardine get set, take these clothes as a disguise and work fast, see what you can do to-day". I then came and told Mr. Joshua, and gave him the pants as an exhibit. I further state that he will be able to recognise me in these clothes at night. I again state that from the manner in which he spoke he meant that I was even to commit the offence or even to assist him in the act of shooting down Mr. Joshua, if I had succeeded in getting Mr. Joshua to say, attempt an offence of arson on a place like Her Majesty's Treasury.

Sgd. VINCENT A. SARDINE.

£ $ £ £ $ £ TREASURE £ CHEST £

United Brit. Oilfields of Trinidad

PROFITS this year reaches £527,202 (over 2 million West Indian dollars).

Of course they have been able to afford a tax of £900,000 (3½ million W.I. dollars) all to Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer—you see these companies are registered in London.

Imperial Britain is 'winning' on both fronts.

U.B.O.T. gives to its shareholders a 12½ per cent. dividend the same as a year ago.

They tuck away £325,000 as a general reserve—also carrying forward £179,635 to next year's accounts.

What wealth awaits us when we are really a Federation and Nationally Independent.

Discounts for bulk supply of *Caribbean News*

10 to 24 of one issue	10%
25 to 49 ,, ,,	15%
50 to 99 ,, ,,	25%
100 or more ,,	33⅓%

including delivery charges

WATER RIOTS COMMEMORATED

P.O.S. TRINIDAD

THE Fiftieth Anniversary of the "Water Riots" commemorated by the W.I.I.P. with a mass meeting in Woodford Square, P.O.S., on Monday, 23rd March, 1953.

On Monday, 23rd March, 1903, the people protesting against the oppressive Water Works Ordinance and defending their right to attend meetings of the Legislative Council, surrounded the Red House in their thousands. Sixteen working people were killed and fifty-one were wounded. Though the professional and merchant class were prominent in their agitation against the ordinance, not one of them was killed.

Forced to Flee

The Governor and other Colonial officials were forced to flee for their lives to the warships H.M.S. Pallas and H.M.S. Rocket, then docked in P.O.S. harbour and which had been brought to quell the people's resistance. The Red House, the seat of the local Government, was burned down. The people were taxed for two years excess in order to rebuild it.

Lennox Pierre, Chairman of the W.I.I.P., delivered the main address. Eye witness accounts of the riots were also given by Comrade Julian Brathwaite and Downes.

[C.P.N.S.]

No Reply to Protests

TRINIDAD

ON the 11th March, 1953, the Powers and Privileges Bill became law. Neither the Governor nor the Secretary of State replied to the objections of the witnesses who appeared before the Select Committee on the bill.

The Trinidad and Tobago Trades Union Council, the Civil Rights Action Committee, the West Indian Independence Party had all formally protested to the Governor and requested that assent be withheld until he could hear their protests. No reply was received but the bill was passed.

It will no longer be possible to attend meetings of the Legislative Council as of right. This right has now been legally taken away from the people.

JAMAICA — Pleasure Land for the Rich

by Eric Deslandes

UNEMPLOYMENT is said to be on the increase in the West Indies. Out of a total population of approximately three million people, it is estimated that at least 40 per cent. of the working force is out of work.

Acting on orders from their Imperialist boss, however, the semi-colonial regime in Jamaica is reported to be pursuing a policy evidenced by the fact that over the past five years more foreign capital has entered the Island than ever before in its history.

Profits go Abroad

Jamaicans who are concerned with the development of their country will not greet this announcement with any amount of pride or satisfaction. For what is the use of foreign capital investments when cheap labour is exploited and the profits go abroad? And there is the possibility, too, of a return of feudalism.

To illustrate this point, here are some of the investors whose presence in the Island speaks of its natural wealth and promise:

Major Albert Nathan, English investor who owns department stores in London and Jamaica, has bought 40 acres of Miranda Hill adjoining Mr. Phillip Shepherd's property, Hackton, in Montego Bay, where is its planned to establish a gigantic Hotel Scheme. In addition, he owns large properties in Mandeville, situated in mid-west Jamaica.

Wall Street Broker

A friend of the Major, Commander Cleaver, has now purchased Copper Hill. Wall Street broker, Floyd Keeler, is now the owner of Ironshore Sugar estate and factory with two other properties, Providence and Hadfield, tacked on to make a total of some 2,000 acres. He also has a residence at Reading, where he lives when in Jamaica.

Reading is on the hills a couple of miles out of Montego Bay proper and, like all the suburbs of the town, has its quota of such people . . . Mrs. Millicent Rogers, wealthy American industrialist who own large interests in Standard Oil concerns, has bought a residence there. Her neighbours are the Britishers, Colonel and Mrs. Rogers—no relations.

An American who made it his business to popularise Montego Bay in particular and Jamaica in general is Geo. Duncombe, retired banker. After having built for him a modernistic bungalow near the sea, he returned to the U.S.A and advertised the Island to friends. Soon to join him were Miss Leodore Gibson, a millionairess who bought a site on Red Hills adjoining Hackton. She also acquired New Mills, twelve miles off the southern seacoast to Lucea.

From Scotland comes Sir John Buchanan Jardine, who owns a house at Brandon Hill on the east side of the town. Back at Reading is Mr. Hamish Mitchell and Major J. T. Pease, both Britishers, who own Round Hill.

Captain and Mrs. James Dwight Akers, who have Lilliput, a 500-acre property near Montego Bay, have already 2,000 grape plants in and plans to multiply to around 10,000 in all. Annual bearing is estimated to be half a million pounds. They are also going in for Virginia tobacco, sugar cane, cattle, Sea Island cotton and horses for the local turf. They aim at building as many beach houses as possible to adorn the 2-mile stretch of coastland.

Errol Flynn

There is Errol Flynn's Navy Island, approximately 50 acres, situated off the coast at Port Antonio. He also owns the Titchfield Hotel there. Noel Coward, famous English playwright, owns a large property on the old Wentworth Plantation, three miles from Port Maria. The late Ivor Novello also acquired Wyndways, a hill top home on the first rising out of Montego Bay.

Col. Sir Harold Mitchell, former Conservative M.P., owns 'Prospect', at one time a thriving sugar estate in the parish of St. Ann's. It was here that Prime Minister Winston Churchill spent most of his holidays while in the Island. This property adjoins the the Tower Isle Hotel owned by Issa Bros., one of Jamaica's most flourishing capitalists . . . . Mr. R. A. Peate and a syndicate of Americans have together taken over a large holding at Dry Harbour, the place Columbus first set foot in the Island.

Space does not permit more than a passing mention of the many wealthy foreigners now doing business in Jamaica. Here are a few others: Jack Nathan of London now owns Mar Vista Hotel; Mr. Phillip Shepherd, Insurance magnate, has Orchard—a 1,000-acre property; the American Bauxite Coy. are mining bauxite and has disclosed that the Island possess 60% of the world's total deposits; A Cuban company has opened a Textile Factory Spanish Town, and a British firm is sponsoring a newly-erected Cement Factory, etc.

From this minimised list, you will see what I mean by a 'return to feudalism'.

Task Ahead

The task therefore lies with West Indians themselves, who must never flinch in their demands for National Independence and Federation, for without these two prerequisites the Legislators will never have a free hand to deal adequately with this and other pressing problems.

★ Editorial ★

A Mess of Pottage

AFTER deliberating for two weeks, the representatives from the West Indies meeting in London under Lyttleton's and Munster's guidance, accepted in the main the terms of the now notorious Rance Report on Caribbean federation.

The communique following the conclusion of the talks indicated that only small changes had been made to the S.C.A.C. recommendations, such as putting the capital in Grenada instead of Trinidad, 15 instead of 25 per cent. of customs revenues for the federal government, and so on.

Not only were many of the people at the talks unrepresentative of the people in whose name they spoke, but also the manner in which the talks were conducted demonstrated the falseness of the whole affair.

One would have thought that an issue like federation which concerned the welfare of so many people would have been carried out in full view rather than in "behind-the-scenes" sessions.

Such a method only reflects the backdoor sell-out of the struggle for West Indian independence by politicians who have no faith in the working class and are prepared to play the imperialists' game of shackling the Caribbean even tighter to the folds of Whitehall.

★

This proposed federation is a tight jail-house imposed from above. Why weren't the people consulted?

The only democratic solution is provided in the aims of the victorious People's Progressive Party of British Guiana, which is prepared to accept federation based on self-government for each unit, to be decided by referendum, and the federal constitution to be drawn up by a constituent assembly.

This is also the stand of the Caribbean Labour Congress.

The "sell-out" federation would only serve the purpose of setting back and retarding the struggle for independence.

West Indians will be clear on the issue, and will demand independence for each respective territory as the first immediate objective. They will then be able to freely join in a democratic federation of free people.

CLC STATEMENT ON ELECTIONS

THE magnificent victory of the Peoples Progressive Party of British Guiana has been cheered and celebrated in every West Indian territory. It will be fittingly commemorated in calypso and verse, and it will gladden the hearts of democrats in every country.

In the flush of a resounding victory it is fitting that we should examine the new features of the situation. This smashing victory of the people has also been 'greeted' by the Imperialists. They have greeted it with such choking fury and hatred that they have been almost reduced to silence.

The usual smooth urbane tones of the *Times* were cast aside on May 1st when it described the victory of the P.P.P.

The epithet "ignorant masses" accurately reflects the feeling of the British classes for the people of British Guiana and the West Indies. Now the "blah-blah" about the coronation has flood proportion, it is well to remember those words.

We must not believe that the rage of the imperialists will merely evaporate and they will work peacefully with the new rising forces. There are no methods too foul or underhand which they will not use in an attempt to pervert the P.P.P.

The *Manchester Guardian*, using a less primitive approach, seeks to apply the techniques of the Labour imperialists and hopes that Jagan can be ensnared like Dr. Nkrumah (Editorial, 1.5.53). These unprincipled scribes who hope that the people of British Guiana may be betrayed will learn the bitter lesson (for them) that Jagan and the P.P.P. will never turn from the programme voted for by the people.

NEW ERA

The era when West Indian politicians, such as Gomes, Adams, Manley, danced to the whims of Whitehall, is swiftly drawing to a close, and arising out of the morass of corrupt politics are new forces represented in Jamaica by Richard Hart, Ferdinand Smith and others, in Trinidad by John Rojas, John La Rose and others, and in St. Vincent by Theodore Joshua, and carried forward by Jagan in British Guiana. These patriots represent and are the incorruptable forces, unswervingly loyal in the service of the West Indian peoples.

The blow delivered in British Guiana is only one of a series of tenpenny nails that will be driven into the coffin of British Imperialism in the West Indies. P.P.P. has triumphed over an unprecedented hate campaign. The Lockhoos and others who were scared off by Imperialism and thought to further their political careers on the anti-communist bandwaggon, have been banished into 'limbo' by the people. There is a collar and a place in limbo for every lap-dog of Imperialism.

Judging by recent efforts of Imperialism to pierce the C.L.C. (London Branch) it is certain that every effort will be made to disrupt the P.P.P., but treachery can never and will never stop the forward march of the people of British Guiana.

The C.L.C. (London Branch) offers its 100% support for the P.P.P. and sends warmest fraternal greetings to our brother organisation.

Citizens of Guiana! Rally even closer under the leadership of Cheddi Jagan and the Executive Committee of the P.P.P.

BRITISH GUIANA VICTORY

(continued from page 1)

Other Assemblymen are :

Ramkarran—Treasurer P.P.P. and a foundation member of the Party, polled 65%.

Fred Bowman—ex-shovelman sugar worker, polled 42.8%, defeated Dr. J. B. Singh, a renegade from the Party who was the leading 'witch-hunter' and who has been invited to 'represent' B.G. at the Coronation.

Mohammed Khan, rice farmer, five opponents lost deposits —he polled 53%.

Jessie Burnham, who defeated 'Honest' John Fernandes and gained 53% of the votes.

F. O. Van Seruma—trade unionist, who gained 49.5% of votes and defeated Dr. Nicholson.

Chandra S. Persaud—Hindu priest, who got 29% and defeated Dan Debidin.

Samuel Lachmansingh—rice farmer and active member of Rice Producers Association, who polled 37%.

Ajodha Singh—militant trade unionist, who was victimised for the part he played in the Berbice sugar estate strikes two years ago.

Jane Phillips-Gay—Secretary Guiana Industrial Workers Union, who caused her six opponents to lose their deposits.

Dr. Hanomansingh—College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad, and specialist children's diseases. He polled 81%.

Congress Resolutions

The Party Congress in March passed several important resolutions, included are:

1. That all Party Ministers accept only $500 per month instead of the proposed salary of $600.

2. That of the $500 paid to Ministers, each Minister must pay the sum of $100 monthly to party funds.

3. That members of the nominated State Council should not be paid.

4. That each Party Assemblyman give the party part of his legislative salary on the following basis:

   (a) For those whose personal incomes exceed $100 per month—one-third of the legislative salary, i.e. $160.

   (b) Those whose personal incomes are between $50 and $100—give 20% of their legislative salary.

   (c) Those whose incomes are $50 and below—give 10% of their legislative salary.

5. That all Party Assemblymen pledge to support legislation for the implementation of the Recall. (Editor's note—The Recall is the right of voters to force the withdrawal of an unsatisfactory Assemblyman from the House on the presentation of a petition signed by the majority of his constituents.)

6. That the next Annual Congress of the Party be a delegates Congress held in Berbice.

Opposition Failed

The National Democratic Party gained two seats and the other two parties contesting failed completely. Lionel (ban all books, all reds) Luckhoo and the sugar estate owners' favourite union, the Manpowers Citizens Association, actively supported the hastily concocted National Democratic Party. These forces conducted one of the most *expensive* smear campaigns ever seen, with red-baiting the chief line. Press and pulpit went out to defeat us on issues such as 'Godless communism' etc. They called the day before polling a "Day of Prayer" to enable voters to ask God for guidance. Since the elections I have not heard the pulpit's comment on God's direction.

May Day Parade was terrific—20,000—biggest ever held in B.G.

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An Election Analysis

by THE EDITOR

THE People's Progressive Party has land-slided British Guiana to political prominence in the West Indies through its sweeping victory, voting being done for the first time under universal adult suffrage.

Despite all the attacks and the campaign of silence from the Big Business press as the election approached, the P.P.P. has shown once and for all that the masses of working people of British Guiana support it and its programme of fighting imperialism, for better conditions for the people, and socialism.

Made History

A correspondent writes:

"We really made history here. I attended the celebration at Port Mourant for Jagan to mark his victory and there were about five thousand people there. P.P.P. won all 3 seats on this coast. Cheddi and his winning candidates in this County went up to Skeldon and drove back slowly, stopping at every village where there were thousands waiting for them. Poor Cheddi was unable to fetch all the garlands.

"In the procession there were about 50 cars, buses, and motor cycles. People kissed him and lifted him and sang. It was the most magnificent thing I have ever witnessed.

"Women wept for joy and children shouted and sang.

"The name of Cheddi Jagan was the only thing you heard. His name has become a symbol of salvation to the people of B.G. 'Even the ranks of Tuscany could scarce forbear the cheer'".

And in Georgetown, the capital, a big meeting was held at which Sydney King, Assistant Secretary of the Party, spoke magnificently on Peace and National Independence.

From 1946 onwards, Cheddi Jagan was the only member of the Legislative Council who consistently fought for the interests of the people.

Janet Jagan's popularity also grew tremendously with the workers. She was tested in the hard arena of street-corner meetings and working class struggle. The workers had ample opportunity of seeing which side she was on.

First Paper

The Party was officially inaugurated in January, 1950, but the foundations had been laid by the People's Political Association from 1946, which included stalwarts Cheddi and Janet Jagan, Sydney King, Ramkarran and Ashton Chase. They published the first progressive news-sheet in British Guiana—the PAC Bulletin.

For the first time a group of people exposed the Government and big business Bookers' robbery of the people. They drew from the experience of the workers the lessons that their troubles sprung from imperialism. They were not afraid to attack imperialism, unlike some demagogues who at times strongly attacked it in a vague sort of way without actually exposing the system to the people.

For Liberation

The P.P.P. with a membership of about 5,000 is a people's democratic party seeking the unity of all sections of Guianese to struggle for Independence and Socialism.

"Our position is clear," said Janet Jagan, General Secretary, at the Second Congress in 1952. "We must take a militant stand against all acts of aggression and a firm stand for peace. Our sympathies and alliances must be with the international working class movement. First of all, as party members, we must realise our position as a part of the world struggle for socialism and peace. Secondly, we must be conscious of our contribution to the struggle of colonial peoples for liberation and self-determination."

The Party states its aims thus:

"Recognising that the final abolition of exploitation and oppression, of economic crises and unemployment and war will be achieved only by the socialist reorganisation of society, pledges itself to the task of winning a free independent Guiana; of working out a democratic federation with the Caribbean Colonies, whose Federal constitution should be written by a constituent assembly; of building a just socialist society in which the industries and natural resources (minerals, etc.) of the colony will be owned by the people and managed for the common good, a society in which security, peace, plenty and freedom will be the heritage of ALL."

Seeks Unity

In achieving this, "the P.P.P. will strive for unity of workers and farmers, co-operatives, friendly societies, progressive businessmen and professionals, civil servants and housewives of all races. It will uncompromisingly fight against imperialism and colonial oppression and will support with all its power the international working class and the national liberation movements of all countries dominated and run for the benefit of alien interests."

Foreign owned

British Guiana's basic industries, bauxite and sugar are owned by a few foreign companies. In Sugar, production 195,651 tons in 1950, mainly owned by Booker Bros., McConnell & Co. Ltd., 21 big plantations accounted for 193,561 tons, while 800 small producers accounted for 2,090 tons or about 1% of total. Their plots average one acre or slightly over, while the average plantation is 7,000 acres.

Bauxite (1,583,417 tons produced 1950) is under the control of two companies, one a subsidiary of Canadian Aluminium Co. Ltd., which in turn is a branch of an American company, and the other a subsidiary of American Cyanamide Corporation, Inc.

Foreign capitalists rob the country of its wealth and retard the development of industry for the people's benefit.

Democratic Control

The Party's programme stands for the "effective democratic control of all major industries. Increase in royalties for gold, bauxite, diamond, timber. Establishment of minor and secondary industries, and conversion of primary products into semi-finished or finished goods by taxation in favour of latter if and where necessary."

Average holding of farmers in 1946 was 2.48 acres. Ninety-two per cent of holdings are 10 acres or under, 76% are 5 acres or under, and 23% of holdings are under 1 acre.

The Party stands for "Land reform and properly planned land settlement schemes", guarantee land to the tillers, and assistance to farmers.

Housing

HOUSING—"Working class housing conditions in the Colony leave much to be desired, and the growth of population in recent years is making the position steadily worse, as comparatively little new building has been taking place" (Colonial Office Economic Survey of Colonial Territories 1951).

The Party's programme on Housing—"quicken slum clearance; abolish tied cottages; subsidization of houses for working class families."

Education

EDUCATION—Twenty-one per cent of the population over 10 years old cannot read or write.

Party's programme—"Free and adequate provision of primary, secondary and technical education for all; abolish dual control; oppose 'shift system'".

Social Security

SOCIAL SECURITY—There are no health or unemployment insurance schemes. Old age pensions are granted to those over 65 years of age who have been living in the Colony at least 10 years, and whose income does not excced 18s. 9d. per month. The rate paid is 18s. 9d. a *month* in Georgetown and 12s. 6d. in the country.

The P.P.P. stands for social security in old age and sickness, and unemployment insurance.

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B.G. Analysis

from page 4

Health

According to 1946 census, there were just 67 doctors and 33 dentists, which worked out to about one doctor to 5,400 people and one dentist to 10,800 people.

The party programme reads : "Extend and raise the standards of public hospitals ; country hospitals, sanatoria and health clinics; more emphasis on preventive medicine."

Stumbling Block

In attempting to implement such a programme, however, the Party will run up against a colonial constitution and system in which real power lies out of their hands.

With such a programme, is it any wonder that the P.P.P. has swept into victory?

When it is realised that an average of six candidates stood in each constituency, the real magnitude and completeness of the Party's victory is fully appreciated. Over 80 candidates lost their deposits, while only two former members of the Legislative Council got back their seats again—T. Lee, one-time P.P.P. member, and W. O. R. Kendall, who beat Martin Carter in New Amsterdam. 'Honest' John Fernandes was among the unsuccessful ones.

Where Power Lies

Let no one make the mistake, however, in thinking that British Guiana has won independence. Nothing of the sort.

Although the Party has an absolute majority in the House of Assembly and Court of Policy, the ministries concerned with Finance, Law and Order, Foreign and Commonwealth relations. Defence including the Police are in the hands of the three official members.

Overriding all is the Governor, whose reserved powers remain undiminished. He can dissolve the elected chamber anytime by declaring an emergency.

Worked Hard

To-day, the Peoples Progressive Party is the only party in B.G. worthy of the name. It has worked hard to build [redacted]he overwhelming confidence the people have shown [redacted] and will continue to forge ahead, further developing [redacted]wn party organisation while at the same time forging [redacted]n stronger links with the people who now look to it with the leadership of Cheddi Jagan to guide them in the struggle for better conditions of life and for Independence with a Socialist future.

Shun Temptations

The people have given the party a big victory. But they cannot now rest content with this victory and leave everything in the hands of their elected representatives. They will have to keep a vigilant check on their legislators to make sure they stick to the Party's policy in the House and shun the temptations which have in the past and will even more now be held out to them by the ruling class in an effort to wreck the Party's victory.

Party Chairman Burnham himself declared: "I have been interviewed at all hours of the day, night and morning even. I have been offered everything from money to political support by the big sahibs and their creatures . . . Those who will like to woo me away from it had better save their efforts for other more gullible, conceited and politically unstable prey." (*Thunder*, February, 1953).

"Unstable Prey"

Already it seems that such "gullible, conceited and politically unstable prey" has been found. For no sooner being elected on the P.P.P. ticket, when Clinton Wong resigned and referred to the Party as being dominated by an "irresponsible group", according to press reports.

Disruption

The *Daily Express* also reported on 18th May that both London and Washington had sent down to British Guiana security men to check and report on the P.P.P. It should not be expected that activities will be confined to reporting, but that attempts will be made to utilise the reported ideological differences beween right and left in the Party to disrupt the movement.

Just recently, news has reached us that underhand means have been tried, involving a seaman from Grenada, to implicate Hon. Joshua of the P.P.P., St. Vincent, in a serious offence. This seaman was allegedly bribed by the Police Superintendent.

The enemies of the people will spare no effort to sharpen the differences within the Party, supporting the Right against the Left.

Appeal to People

In the face of such machinations the Party will find it necessary to dig deeper its roots among the people by constantly appealing to them and explaining its every move to its supporters through mass meetings and the like.

To frustrate the evil designs of their enemies, the members of the Party and people will be exercising the greatest vigilance in order to consolidate the victory that has been won at the poll.

Vigilance

Victory must not give way to complacency. VIGILANCE is the watchword of the people.

The struggle has just begun and all progressive West Indians are looking with hope to the P.P.P. in BRITISH GUIANA, wishing it every success and pledging even more to develop the movement in their respective territories to march in the front ranks to Victory.

Meet your friends at the C L C Dance
Royal Hotel, June 6th.

Make a date for —
BUCHAREST in AUGUST
by J. Vass Jackson

LYING in the slight hollow of the great Rumanian plain with its beautiful low hills running west to south-west, cut by the soft ripples of the River Dambovitsa, whose waters flow to the Danube, is the most satisfying city in Europe. Called Bucharest, its name implies pleasure (from Bucurie meaning joy and pleasure). This name is romantically linked with the victory of Mircea of Wallachia (1389-1419) over the plundering Turks.

The City's history reads like a page from the diary of a fairy princess. Burnt by the Turks in 1595, it has been the scene of many wars and invasions ; in the 18th century bearded Boyas in gay turbans and tall fur hats decorated with red plumes and magnificent brocades lived lavishly besides rich Greeks from Constantinople, whose favourite pastime was the buying of Governments.

Changed today

Rumanian nobility were considered too grand to walk to their rooms ; a young prince would be carried by servants, their arms under his shoulders, his precious feet the earth not to dispoil. To-day, however, the evils of feudalism have been removed and the city breathes freely of the fresh mountain air, being what it set out to be, a city of joy and pleasure.

In August, traces of spring will still linger in Bucharest, this city whose avenues are now fringed with red and white roses, welcomes the scarlet canna so gay in its brilliant contrast with its blue-green leaves. This city of trees will not only be welcoming the Canna and the sweet rays of the warm Rumanian sun, but will also be host to the fourth World Youth Festival and Students for Peace and Friendship.

Young people of all lands will walk in the beautiful parks softly lit with white globes ; parks and squares everywhere—oh, what beauty ; the magnificent entry with its pools and fountains, its statues in the middle of flower beds, the fir trees, the big pink vases, the smooth silky turf ; all these are the frame surrounding the various stadia. The young people of Bucharest are now completing these amenities for your and your friends—there is a seat for everyone.

West Indian Youth need have no fear about attending the Festival ; no persons will be compelled to take part in any activities which they consider contrary to their beliefs. Young Christians from the Scandinavian countries have arranged to meet young Christians from all over the world to discuss the problems of the Christian Churches. Young nurses, engineers, bricklayers, builders, they are all planning to meet in Bucharest.

Opportunity

All West Indians in Britain should endeavour to be in Bucharest this August ; your pen pals overseas to whom you have been writing—here is your opportunity to make a meeting possible—write to them, whatever country they might be in, and invite them to meet you in Bucharest this summer, making possible that meeting which you have long planned.

Why is it so important that West Indian Youth should be represented at this the greatest grathering of young people ever staged.

Make friends

Listen to Mr. Carlton Bayley, a young worker from British Guiana. "In British Guiana we are isolated from contact with our brothers in other West Indian territories, we take a dim view of foreign representatives in our country. This can only be obviated by us young people meeting and knowing our friends in other lands. The Festival is the medium by which we can accomplish this great desire."

And yet another West Indian, Mr. John Young, Vice-Chairman of Liverpool West Indian Society: "I am not interested in politics. I consider the Festival a good thing because we are striving for peace, and this to me seems the best way to make friends from all lands and guarantee a happy life."

So let's get going, West Indians. Fill in and send off the form on this page. Get registered, the Festival is only a short time away ; August 2nd—16th.

Billy Strachan

COMRADE BILLY STRACHAN is improving in condition, after his operation.

Many comrades and friends visiting him, are pleased that he can now walk, even though with sticks.

Even in hospital he has not been idle and has been helping with the forward march of the C.L.C.

We hope that he will soon be with his beloved family again.

★ ★ ★

To WEST INDIAN Festival Committee
17 Bishop's Bridge Road, London, W.2.

Please send me more details of the World Youth Festival in BUCHAREST.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Greetings ★

or *A stalwart meets his match*

CONGRATULATIONS to Rolly Simms on his marriage to Anne Leeser, 30/5/53.

Rolly has been an active member of the C.L.C. since 1950. He has held many Executive posts and is now Vice President.

His many activities include the memorable demonstration outside South Africa House in 1950 when Dr. Donges was a welcome visitor of the then Labour Government. Also the daring revelation in 1951 to a west end cinema audience of the facts about the case of Willie Magee, one of the many Negro legal murder victims of U.S.A. justice. (See him in picture on right demonstrating on May Day.)

He has not been found wanting on the other side of the movement's activities either. On C.L.C. Deputations to the Minister of State for the Colonies, about such as the bans imposed on progressive West Indians entering other W.I. islands, he has done valuable work. He has also served on the Seretse Khama fighting committee for Seretse's restoration to his Bamangwato people.

Anne has identified herself with the C.L.C. for a long while now, and has rendered valuable services. She should be a good partner for our young warrior.

The C.L.C. wish the couple all the happiness they deserve. And may they always be strong to carry on the struggle.

On the Job

Part of the C.L.C. (L.B.) contingent in the May Day demonstration in London
L to R, Carlton Bailey, Rolly Simms, Anne Leeser

C.L.C. BANNER *is Held High*

ONCE again the delegation of the C.L.C.(L.B.) made a glorious effort at the 1953 May Day Demonstration under the auspices of the great London Trades Council. The West Indians marched under their banner and expressed their feeling through slogans and calypsoes. To name a few: "Down with Rance", "End The Ban On Travel", "We Want Peace", We Want Independence", etc.

All along the route from Shepherds Bush to Hyde Park, people cheered as we passed.

This demonstration has been perhaps the largest ever held in London, and clearly indicates the growing feeling among the British workers for Peace, International working class Solidarity and Colonial Independence.

Caura Racket Finally Exposed

AFTER two years of deliberate delay, the Government issued, on 13th March, 1953, the long awaited Caura Dam report. The report from beginning to end was a tale of fraud, misappropriation and robbery of taxpayers' money by imported colonial "experts" and local sharks. The penalty was that the benevolent Trinidad colonial administration allowed the "English gentlemen" to flee, whilst others were sent on promotion to other colonial territories to continue their thefts with blessings from the Colonial Office.

MONEY WASTED

The Caura Dam was to solve the water problem in P.O.S., South and Central Trinidad. After three million dollars (B.W.I.) were spent, the project was closed down. The one-man Commission under Justice Manning provided the necessary excuse for not jailing the culprits by stating that there was not sufficient evidence for prosecution.

The government further exposed this hoax and revealed their policy of lies, when in defence of charges of exceeding his Powers, the Colonial Secretary was forced to confess that the report was, in fact, a "Command Paper" and need not have been brought to the Council before publication. In short, their much flaunted bluff, that the Report formed the basis of the passing of the notorious Powers and Privileges Bill, was called and they were left showing an empty hand.

[C.P.N.S.]

GOVERNOR BANS *CARIBBEAN NEWS*

A WEST INDIAN people's paper has been banned in four major territories of the West Indies. The latest is the ban imposed by Sir Hugh Foot, British Colonial Governor of Jamaica, under the Undesirable Publications Act.

The other places in which *Caribbean News* is banned are Trinidad, British Guiana, and St. Vincent.

One is entitled to ask what Sir Hugh Foot finds undersirable in the paper. Could it be that the Anglo-American imperialists do not like the main article contained in the last issue exposing the World Bank moving into Jamaica and threatening to lower the already low standards of the people?

Could be !

Don't miss

C.L,C. (L.B.) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, June 7th. 2-30 p.m.
20 Pont Street, S.W.1.
Tube: Knightsbridge

Followed by CULTURAL PROGRAMME

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